

Kanine Korner

By Francis X. Lohmann

This reporter would like to go on record in an attempt to nullify absolutely and finally, stupid and unthinking everyday comments such as "he has gone to the dogs" intended to point utter degradation. Have you, gentle readers, ever gone to the dogs? Have you, worn and weary by the mess of mankind's bickerings and rattlings, ever turned to some canine darling and there found instant relief from doubt and despair? Seen in the pendulous tail a welcome such as kings might offer, in the licking of hands and face such gladness. You are tired, but that faithful friend is never too tired to respond to your touch. You are unkind, but your ugly humor is repaid

with all kindness. You are sleepless, and this uncomplaining companion stays awake with you. You are lonesome, and there's one at hand to keep you company. You are sad, and a cool muzzle nudges your fallen hand. **WHATEVER** hour of day or night, this peerless friend is keen to your every whim or need. You punish him for some little infraction, and back he comes to lie at your feet. You praise him, and his vibrant body betokens the ultimate of gratitude. He will stay beside you through cold, hunger and adversity. He will share a crust of bread as if it were a feast. Even as a mere acquaintance, he will whine and wrig-

gle himself into a lasting fond memory of goodwill. Hold his paw and you feel an immortal friendliness. I know little of what may lie beyond the confines of this earth existence. But this much I do know; that if there be no welcoming bark when I have crossed the bar leading to the heavenly heights, I'll want to come back to go to the dogs. **BROWSER BROWSINGS**—Mahatma Gandhi once said—"Visitation, in my opinion, is the blackest of all the black crimes that man is at present committing against God and His fair creation. It will become us to invoke in our daily prayers the blessings of God, the compassionate, if we in turn will not practice elementary compassion towards our fellow creatures..." Effective immediately, Alfred M. Dick picks up the presidential gavel at the American Kennel Club succeeding William E. Buckley

who stepped down for reasons of health. John A. Lafore Jr. replaces Dick as executive vice president. Leonard Brumby Jr. of Syosset, Long Island, N.Y., has been upped to the new post of vice president and Alexander F. Stifel remains as executive secretary and Roy H. Carlberg stays on as secretary. My heartiest congrats and a king size bark to this sextet of esteemed gentlemen of dogs. City canines average a life span that is two to three years longer than their country cousins, despite the dangers of automobile traffic. Contrary to popular belief, the sad-eyed Basset Hounds are of French origin. Originally imported to England in the 1890s, the Bassets first

landed on the American shore in 1902. **IT SEEMS** that just about everyone is making obituary records these days. How about a recording contract for Lassie of London in stereo or hi-fido? The Pennsylvania State University announces a correspondence course now available on dogs—their care and training. It's the latest of 90 courses offered by that university as part of its informal, non-credit program. Instruction on feeding, shelters, disease and parasite controls make up the major parts of the canine course. Breeding, whelping, and puppy care come in for detailed discussion. Hints are given on dog selection. Responsibilities of dog

owners are presented. There's a lesson on genetics and dog breeding. Four lessons deal with obedience training. Interested readers can enroll by sending your name and address with \$3.25 (payable to Penn State) to Dogs, Box 5000, University Park, Pa. 16802. **BREED OF THE WEEK**—Japanese Spaniel... The Japanese Spaniel's beautiful coat and color pattern make him one of the most eye-arresting of the toy breeds of dogs. The official AKC standard describes his appearance as "that of a lively highbred

little dog with dainty appearance, smart, compact appearance and profuse coat." These little Oriental canines have a high stepping, stylish gait and carry their plummy tails in a proud curve. The breed enjoys unusual popularity with fanciers of toy breeds. The Japanese Spaniel was brought to Japan by either Chinese ambassadors or Buddhist priests. The first glimpse of the Japanese Spaniel outside the Oriental lands was at the time the Emperor of Japan presented four Japa-

MARCH 27, 1968 PRESS-HERALD A-9

ese Spaniels to Commodore Perry in the year 1853, upon the historic occasion of Perry's opening Japan to international trade. (Paid Political Advertisement)

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